

STUDENTS AND THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE LEARNING OF MATHEMATICS:
A CASE STUDY OF OWERRI MUNICIPAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA.

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THE ABSTRACT:

Mathematics is one of the subjects that hold high influence among other subjects, which is applied in almost all competitive courses in the universities. It is also the backbone of development in the society, which makes it paramount for all good and available efforts to be put together to suppress the ill shortcoming in students and elevate the existing strong hopes in them. Thus, the objective of this study was to assess whether students' attitudes towards mathematics are influenced by the attitude of teachers, parents, peer-groups, society and their personal interest. The study adopted the descriptive survey design using simple percentages and Chi-square test of independence in analyzing the data. Senior secondary school students from randomly selected schools in Owerri Municipal Local Government Area were used. One instrument was used while five research questions were answered in the study. The result showed that teacher's method of teaching mathematics and his personality greatly accounts for students' attitude towards the learning of mathematics. From the results, one could conclude that mathematics could be made simple and attractive if all factors that impede teaching of mathematics are adhered to. It is recommended that teachers and parents should develop positive relationship with students. Government and policy makers should organize periodic seminars and workshops for students, parents and teachers desired to promote positive attitudes towards mathematics learning.